



QTC

*The Radio Amateur Society
of Australia*

December 2024

In This Issue:

What's Happened to 60 Metres? We Investigate.

Boat Anchors: What's the Attraction?

ACMA Update: Questions Answered.



Seasons
Greetings from
the team at RASA





In This Issue:

What ever happened to 60 metres?	6
Questions and Issues with the Defence letter objecting to Amateur Radio access to 5MHz.	17
Amateur Radio Helpline	19
RASA HF DX Contest	21
EMDRC Foundation Course	22
ACMA Update	23
Third Party Messaging for Amateur Radio – Yes or No?	23
VK Prefixes - Confirmation	25
Antennapalooza Re-Scheduled to January	27
Dits n Dahs	29
DX Happenings	30
Click Here to Learn More about QRM. guru	31

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Contact: info@vkradioamateurs.org
Website: <http://vkradioamateurs.org>

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QTC Magazine welcomes contributions for future editions. When planning to submit an article, please read our submission guidelines first.

Following the guidelines will save you and the editing team a lot of time and effort. The guidelines are [HERE](#)

From the President - How we roll

Paul VK2APA

"As journalists, verified, irrefutable facts are our only trade, our only credential is the truth. And as the waters of disinformation swirl, we must seek it, hold it and raise it above the waves"

(Fran Kelly, 2024 Annual Andrew Olle Lecture)



We would add to this. Any statements or answers to questions must not only be honest and factual, they must be complete and address the context of the question. What do we mean by this?

Well, let's say we want to know how the weather is outside. The question is clear and the context is clear. So we ask: "How is the weather today". We get this answer: "It's not sunny today".

How would you interpret that answer?

The weather is, in fact, blowing a gale and hailing sideways. Whilst the answer was technically correct, we think all reasonable people would agree it's not only disingenuous, it's failing to answer the intent and context of the question. It's failing to be completely truthful. It's clear the person answering the question either can't, or doesn't want to "tell it like it is". We may well head outside with a jacket and long pants, but will we really consider a coat, umbrella and scarf? Will we reconsider our decision to go outside? Why didn't the person simply say "The weather is horrendous".

Here at QTC and RASA none of us are trained journalists, but we aspire to uphold these standards. Every article we publish undergoes peer review and fact checking. When we are uncertain of an assertion we say so. When we quote someone we provide the credentials. When we write a controversial article we're clear about the reasoning.

Obviously, again, context comes into play. A story on a DXpedition can't undergo much in the way of fact-checking per se - other than some basic verification, but as the story is usually for entertainment purposes, quite often such stories will contain embellishments and flair by the author; and that's fine.

But when we publish an article on policy or important matters relating to our hobby, we undertake extensive research and fact-checking. We have on more than one occasion left out what may be important facts as we've been unable to verify their veracity. We have responsibility to practice integrity and explain any errors or omissions in our published material

In our editorials, we'll often state qualified opinions and pass judgement on what we deem as unacceptable behaviour. But we'll never lie. Nor will we be selective in telling the truth. Sometimes the truth is unpleasant. Often it's not what we really want to hear.

These are all standards we should all expect of any association or magazine representing our hobby.

Keep these principles in mind as you read our articles on the 5 MHz band this month. And if you ever have any concerns with any of our articles please send us an email.



Year's end

As we wrap up another year, I sincerely hope that all our members and readers have experienced a fulfilling 2024 and have taken pleasure in the countless activities our amazing hobby has to offer.

It's been a very newsworthy year! The ACMA's introduction of the new Class Licence arrangements went off without a hitch, encountering only a few minor challenges that needed to be resolved.

We added to our online resources and revised the content where necessary; if you are not aware of our key resources, check them out:

- [Foundation Level Study Guide \(FLSG\) \(Version 2\)](#)
- [VK Regs \(Version 2\)](#)
- [Welcome to Amateur Radio Guidebook \(Version 1.3\)](#)
- [QRM Guru](#)
- [Amateur Radio Tech Support](#)

All these resources are free and available to all amateurs, clubs, and educators.

2025 will prove to be another interesting year as we continue to focus on how we can support existing Amateurs, promote the hobby and greater participation, as well as supporting newcomers. This year we will be launching another innovative resource for all Amateurs; we hope a game-changer. And, like all our resources, it will be free.

As the year comes to a close we should spend quality time with family and friends during the holidays, particularly with those who might be alone and could use some company.

On behalf of myself, the RASA Management Team, and our dedicated Volunteers, I'd like to wish you and your families a Merry Christmas filled with joy, along with a safe, bright, and prosperous New Year ahead!

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Editorial

The spirit of amateur radio is alive and well - mostly.



Recently a member of the editorial team had cause to seek some technical assistance. The first offer came from an amateur living nearby, with subsequent help (above and beyond) via social media and the groups.io reflector. The help came in the form of experience from others who had undertaken the same technical procedure, along with links to service manuals, documented procedures, and YouTube videos. And as an added bonus, photos of radio shacks and various projects on the bench.

In another scenario an amateur on the local repeater was bemoaning the fact that the neighbour's air-conditioning unit was causing significant QRM on HF. His interlocutor was able to refer him to QRM Guru, where a similar case study was submitted by Klaus VK3IU.

We are sure you hear these stories every week, and we hope you are both the recipient and provider of the "amateur radio spirit". Here at RASA we are firm believers in these basic principles and they drive everything we do.

Therefore, it saddens us that the people on the board of the WIA won't exercise this same spirit to work collaboratively with us on projects like:

- [Amateur Radio Tech Support](#)
- Amateur Radio Helpline - read about it in this edition
- Lobbying for access to 5 MHz - refer this edition of QTC
- Lobbying for 1KW for Advanced licensees - refer our website
- Promotion of our great hobby to the broader public - refer both associations websites - community wide promotion is almost a non-starter

Every time RASA and the WIA approach ACMA with different proposals we create division and confusion; and this benefits no-one. You can read more about 5 MHz (as an example) in this edition of QTC. RASA will continue to seek cooperation with the WIA for the benefit of all amateurs.

In the meantime, we'll continue to encourage grass-roots support; for amateurs by amateurs. If you have a story demonstrating the "amateur radio spirit", please share it with us.

You can read more about an innovative new service we hope to trial early in 2025; Amateur Radio Helpline - a service designed to connect volunteers with those who need a little help.

In this edition of QTC we've done a deep-dive on 60 metres (5 MHz) and asked the question "What ever happened to 60 metres?". This is an investigative article and makes for interesting reading. We have asked the WIA to clarify a few details but sadly, some important questions remain unanswered.

There's some news on Antennapalooza and the upcoming Ballarat Hamvention. If you'd like to advertise your local hamfest, just send us an email with the details; and please give us adequate notice.

The RASA HF DX Contest is coming to completion for 2024. Make sure you get your log and entry in; you could win a ZachTech WSPR Transmitter valued at \$210.

As always, we value your feedback and contributions. If you have a story that other amateurs might find interesting, please share it with us. If you're not the most confident writer in the world, don't worry, we can help panel beat your article to make it suitable for publishing.

In the meantime, good wishes for the festive season and get active on air or with a project.

73, QTC Editorial Team



What ever happened to 60 metres?

The Amateur Radio Sixty metre band (5 MHz) is coming up to its 10-year anniversary. It was approved as a secondary band for the Amateur Radio Service at the World Radio Conference in 2015 (WRC15).

“The World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-15) in Geneva has agreed on a secondary allocation of 5351.5-5366.5 kHz for the Amateur Service, with regional power limits of 15 watts to 25 Watts measured in effective isotropic radiated power (EIRP). That decision came on November 18 at the conference Plenary Meeting, the outcome of Item 1.4 that proposed to give the amateur service its first new HF allocation since 1979....

... The last step and a formality is the signing of the Final Act when WRC-15 closes on November 27.

Then adoption of new International Telecommunications Union treaty obligations from all of the WRC-15 outcomes, expected to flow into domestic frequency allocations in coming months.

The breakthrough for the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) on the 5 MHz issue came as the result of years of preparation, trials and talks.”

Ref: 19 Nov 2015 <https://www.wia.org.au/newsevents/news/2015/20151119-1/index.php>

Since that time, at least 260 countries have been granted access to the band, including our closest neighbours, New Zealand and Indonesia; and to the north Sri Lanka, India and China, to name a few. Alas, Australian amateurs have not enjoyed similar privileges, and information on the reasoning has been inadequate, to say the least.

We thought it was time to investigate what happened at WRC-15 from an Australian perspective, and what progress has been made since.

A review of the ACMA website, the WIA news website, and magazine are the only real sources of information available since that time. In the following pages we'll re-publish relevant excerpts from the WIA website and news services and see what conclusions we can draw.

We'll then look at what RASA has been doing and conclude with an assessment of where we are today.

Much of the news is from the second half of 2015; we've been unable to find any further explanations following the news surrounding WRC-15.

“What does this mean for Australian amateur operators? While the 15 W eirp power limitation is seemingly harsh, calculations indicated that it is probably in accordance with typical mobile usage where a 100 W transmitter and vertical whip is used. More problematic is that the frequency band selected by SWG-4B1 was the only possibility and the situation in Australia is that this band is heavily used by the Royal Flying Doctor and other important services. So at this time it is far from clear how this situation can be resolved.”

Ref: 14 Nov 2015 <https://www.wia.org.au/newsevents/news/2015/20151114-1/index.php>



“Dale VK1DSH then had final negotiations with the Australian Department of Defence and the ACMA, originally seeking only a 10 kHz-wide allocation, but that too was resolved.”

Ref: 4 Dec 2015 <https://www.wia.org.au/newsevents/news/2015/20151204-2/index.php>

“1 New band at WRC-15 through WIA & IARU representation

A new allocation of 5351.5 – 5366.5 kHz was approved at the World Radiocommunications Conference held November 2-27. It will take time and effort by the WIA, working with the ACMA to see how it can work in the Australian context with many incumbents already given 5 MHz. But the outcome of WRC-15 and the new band have in no small part been the work of a team. Enormous thanks to Dale Hughes VK1DSH for being at Geneva, and taking part in lead-up events. If and when Australia gets the new secondary allocation at 60 m remains unknown as there will be discussions with the ACMA to address local issues.”

Ref: WIA: From the WIA Board Table, Number 9, December 2015

“Mr David Murray of the Defence Spectrum Office deserves special thanks for his flexibility and understanding in the final part of the delicate negotiations given the long standing interest of the Australian Department of Defence in spectrum around 5300 kHz.”

Ref: Amateur Radio Magazine Jan & Feb 2016, p. 61

It's unclear how the Defence Spectrum Office “exercised flexibility and understanding” and what impact this had on Australia's continued lack of access to this band. The WIA has not provided an explanation. On 22 December 2015, another WIA News item states:

“The Australian Communications and Media Authority is aware of the decision made by WRC-15 at Geneva, and expects future discussion on it with the Wireless Institute of Australia. Until the ACMA agrees through the Australian Radiofrequency Spectrum Plan or the Licence Condition Determination, no VK radio amateur is allowed to use those frequencies.

So just repeating, despite a decision being made at WRC-15, and access possible in some countries to radio amateurs under their domestic rules, no such decision has been made in Australia. Transmitting by radio amateurs in Australia on 5 MHz is illegal, until the ACMA gives its approval, which may take many years.”

Ref: 22 December 2015 <https://www.wia.org.au/newsevents/news/2015/20151222-1/index.php>

In 2017 the WIA noted it working with the ACMA, but no details are available as to the content of this work, or the outcome:

“As for when access to the new 60 metre band will become available, to be consistent with outcomes of previous WRCs, the next step will involve amending the Amateur licence conditions, which provides all the definite technical parameters (See "60 metres dreaming" in the Hot Issue web page). This process would provide the



opportunity to progress the other changes that the Institute had advocated. The WIA's Spectrum Strategy Committee is working with the ACMA to determine when access to 60 metres for Australian amateurs will become available and progressing claims in other parts of the spectrum."

Ref: <https://www.wia.org.au/newsevents/news/2017/20170108-1/index.php>

A search for the "Hot Issues" page gave no results. All issues are either cold or removed from the website.

Since that time there has been no apparent progress by the WIA in negotiating access to 5 MHz with the ACMA. It was radio silence at the WIA up until an ACMA announcement in May 2020. Nothing proactive and no updates as to what representation they've been championing for VK amateurs in the preceding four years.

In May 2020, after lobbying by RASA, the ACMA issued a discussion paper and sought feedback from the sector. In this news release, WIA Director Mr Moyle confirms the reactive stance the WIA appears to have taken:

"The ACMA website has a few nuggets if you go digging.....The WIA will be releasing a 60m consultation poll to the general Amateur radio community shortly for you to choose and record your preferred option which on completion will be submitted to ACMA for their perusal. The WIA poll, as always is open to all Radio Amateurs Australia wide, whether a WIA member or not as we all need the opportunity to collectively have our choices tabled to ACMA for their ultimate decision on the 60M Band usage for us.

Remember your single contribution, collectively with all the others, will make the difference. Read more at WIA website wia.org.au and make your submission (which can be as simple as a line saying which option you prefer):

It is important that you do send a submission whether via the WIA poll or directly to ACMA. "

The WIA conducted a poll shortly thereafter, and then submitted a response to the ACMA on 19 June 2020. You can read that response here:

<https://www.wia.org.au/search.php?cx=003450235088133466407%3Atzh7alkgzu&cof=FORID%3A11&q=60+metres&sa=Search>

RASA also submitted a response to the ACMA discussion paper. We proposed a sharing arrangement with the existing users and a trial to assess any interference problems.

As we know, the ACMA have continued to deny amateur access to 5 MHz on the basis that it *may* interfere with Defence interests.

In December 2022 the ACMA released their Decision Paper (in response to the Consultation Paper). They denied Amateur Radio access based on Defence interests. No specific technical explanation was provided for this decision.

The next update from the WIA was in late 2022



“In balancing defence’s existing use of the 5351.5–5366.5 kHz band against the impacts of introducing use by the amateur service, the ACMA has decided not to support amateur use in the band. ...”

Defence use of the HF band by radio location systems (like ‘over the horizon radar’) is permitted under footnote AUS57 of the Australian Radio Frequency Spectrum Plan (2).

HF radiolocation systems apparently require a significant amount of contiguous spectrum and the *Department of Defence may be concerned that occupancy of parts of the 60m band by amateurs would decrease the available free spectrum for radiolocation*. This fact, along with the need to protect the other incumbent users, which includes ambulance and fire services, led the ACMA to decide that Australian amateurs would not be allowed to use the 60m band, despite the ITU-R allocation.”

Ref: Amateur Radio Magazine, Vol. 90, Number 6, p.61

We have highlighted the ACMA’s reasoning for this decision. *Department of Defence may be concerned that occupancy of parts of the 60m band by amateurs would decrease the available free spectrum for radiolocation*

This is a specious argument. Perhaps Defence don’t understand the frequency allocations at 5 MHz? The amateur band is FIXED at 15 kHz. It is already used by the land mobile service. *Granting access to amateurs will not impact spectrum available for radiolocation (i.e. Jindalee) at all.*

Since 2020, RASA has continued to lobby ACMA for access to this band and has challenged the ACMA’s argument surrounding the Department of Defence’s reasoning for this decision. Defence’s concerns have no technical basis, and we’ve challenged ACMA in this matter. You can read more about these concerns and RASA’s response in the March 2020 QTC article which has been reprinted in this edition.

It is important for amateurs to understand that RASA has presented a strategic and logical solution to the ACMA, and we’ve asked the WIA to review and consider our submissions. Somewhat surprisingly, we’ve had no response. This is especially disappointing, as the WIA should put the interests of all amateurs front and centre.

Since that time, we’ve corresponded with ACMA further. In March 2024 RASA escalated the matter to the Minister of Communications. A response from the Department in April essentially reinforced the ACMA’s position that Amateurs be denied access to 5 MHz due to National Defence interests.

Of interest is this quote:

“ACMA released its decision paper on this issue in December 2020. However, as Defence’s use of the 5 MHz band has not changed since this decision was made, and in consideration of the Australian Delegation’s agreement to protect Defence’s interests in the 5 MHz band in perpetuity, there does not appear to be a case to revisit the ACMA’s decision to not support amateur service use of the 5 MHz band at this time.”

Ref: Letter from Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communication and the Arts, 2 April 2024



What is the agreement to protect Defence's interest in perpetuity? Were WIA Delegates a part of the Australian Delegation? Is this what the WIA referred to in Amateur Radio Magazine (Jan & Feb 2016, p.61) when they thanked Defence for "flexibility and understanding"?

Has the WIA known all along that the ACMA would not grant Australian Amateurs access to 5 MHz?

The ACMA has now referred us to the Department of Defence.

RASA should not be bypassing the Regulator on a matter of spectrum management. And (in our humble opinion) the Regulator should not be absolving itself of a core responsibility.

The ACMA has failed to explain at a policy and technical level, why a 15 kHz low power allocation to Australian amateurs in a domestic sea of other allocations is detrimental to Defence interests. They need to explain why other services (with a much higher potential to cause interference) continue to be granted licences.

If this segment of the spectrum is so important to Australia's Defence capabilities, why has ACMA granted a Digital Mode licence with 400 Watts to a Queensland business just 2 kHz beneath the amateur radio segment (Feb 2024). We all know 400 Watts of Digital is full duty cycle and has far greater ability to cause significant interference than 15 Watts. (14dB more!).

In addition, AR Victoria was granted a 100 Watt Land Mobile licence in the Amateur Radio segment in 2024.

Summary:

The IARU and its member societies successfully negotiated a secondary allocation of 15 kHz in the 5 MHz band for the Amateur Radio Service at WRC15. This small segment would then be considered by individual administrations for local allocation. In our case, the ACMA, along with the WIA as the only local representative body at the time, would have undertaken negotiations to allocate this segment for Australian amateurs. This position was reflected in a WIA News release in December 2015

"It will take time and effort by the WIA, working with the ACMA to see how it can work in the Australian context with many incumbents already given 5 MHz."

As far as we can tell, the WIA has done very little (announcement of activity in WIA News but no substantive outcomes or updates) to pursue access to 5 MHz since 2015, other than a response (and poll) to the ACMA's Consultation Paper in June 2020.

We have written to the WIA asking them what their position is regarding 5 MHz, and to explain their unwillingness to work with RASA on behalf of Australian amateurs. No response.

What's RASA been doing? You can read the details in the March 2023 edition of QTC. But, in summary:

Since 2020 RASA has been lobbying for access to the 5 MHz allocation. We've undertaken detailed research, including monitoring of the band over an extended period. There are no technically feasible reasons why ACMA should not permit a trial. There are literally



thousands of other land mobile users, operating all over Australia on this band with 100W (vs 15W for amateurs), and there appears to be no risk to Defence.

RASA has offered strategies to mitigate interference to other users. ACMA continues to argue that Defence interests prohibit our use of this narrow (15 kHz) segment. In our latest correspondence, the ACMA has referred RASA to the Department of Defence.

In addition, since 2020 RASA has continued to seek cooperation from the WIA. It is our firm view that only through solidarity can we achieve additional privileges. The WIA President was made aware of our strategy and approach in 2023 (direct reference to QTC March 2023) and advised the appropriate WIA specialists would review our material.

We are still waiting for a response.

For convenience we have reprinted the article from QTC March 2023 in this edition of QTC.

Where are we today?

- The ACMA continues to deny the Amateur Radio Service access to this band on the basis of competing needs from Primary users. The main objection is from the Department of Defence.
- The WIA, whilst supportive of access to the band in public announcements, appears to have accepted the ACMA's position and is not challenging the decision, nor have they actively negotiated with the ACMA since WRC15.
- It is not exactly clear what arrangements were made with Defence at WRC15, but various references suggest some form of agreement to selectively exclude Australian amateurs from this band, whilst permitting other users to continue being granted licences. We understand WIA representatives were part of the Australian Delegation. What can the WIA tell us about these discussions and decisions?
- RASA has continued to lobby ACMA and has provided solid technical reasoning to support our argument. The ACMA are unwilling to respond to our arguments and have referred us to the Department of Defence.
- RASA continues to communicate with the WIA, seeking their cooperation, but to date these efforts have been unsuccessful.

We believe a concerted effort from RASA and the WIA, demonstrating sector solidarity would give us the best opportunity for the ACMA to consider our arguments and revisit their decision to refuse access to 5 MHz.

Why is the WIA not advancing a case for access to 5 MHz? What (if any) agreements were made with the Regulator and Defence at WRC15? What is clear is the Australian Delegation agreed to protect Defence's interests in the 5 MHz band in perpetuity (whatever this means).

We believe all Amateurs deserve a straight answer from the WIA. Why have they not attempted to negotiate access to this band for Amateurs? Why have they failed to inform their members and the broader amateur community of their efforts?

The only reasoning we can suggest for the continued denial of access by ACMA and Defence is one of trust. Maybe they simply do not trust Amateurs to do the right thing?



Perhaps they are concerned we'll exceed the 15W EIRP, and/or use our amplifiers to chase DX and work new countries?

If the 5 Mhz band is so critical to Australia's Defence capabilities, why has the ACMA continued to grant licences (all with far more power than amateur radio)?

Either way, we believe the current stance of the Regulator is unacceptable and we need solidarity from the sector to convince them to reconsider their position.

In researching and preparing this article, we wrote once again to the WIA President with some questions asking what their position was regarding 5 MHz and if they would join RASA in revisiting the situation with the ACMA.

We were fortunate to have a telephone conversation with the WIA President just prior to the deadline for this edition of QTC. In summary the WIA President confirms: "We all want to find a solution that satisfies all stakeholders and accept that some compromise may be required".

We also understand that enquiries have been made to former board members and WIA representatives involved in the WRC15 negotiations. As far as we can ascertain, there appears to be a lack of formal documentation around these events and subsequent discussions between the WIA, ACMA and DoD, but we hope the WIA will have a meaningful update for the community early in the New Year.

It is our understanding the WIA President remains willing to work cooperatively to achieve improved conditions for the Amateur Radio sector. We will continue to support him in these aspirations, and we encourage all readers to support him as well.

We will continue to raise these matters with ACMA and the WIA. Our team is considering other options and we'll keep readers appraised of any updates.

Appendix - References

5.A14 Stations in the amateur service using the frequency band 5 351.5-5 366.5 kHz shall not exceed a maximum radiated power of 15 W (e.i.r.p.). However, in Region 2 in Mexico, stations in the amateur service using the frequency band 5 351.5-5 366.5 kHz shall not exceed a maximum radiated power of 20 W (e.i.r.p.). In the following Region 2 countries: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Dominica, El Salvador, Ecuador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela, as well as the overseas territories of the Netherlands in Region 2, stations in the amateur service using the frequency band 5 351.5-5 366.5 kHz shall not exceed a maximum radiated power of 25 W (e.i.r.p.). (WRC-15)

Ref: [World Radiocommunication Conference 2015 - Provisional Final Acts](#)

NZ Regains access to 60 metres in January 2024

https://www.nzart.org.nz/info/60m?fbclid=IwY2xjawGorNVleHRuA2FlbQlXMQABHWnCl-PARi6a5n5jJN4blfYvbrzwCV0R5A78TmfGE6Qg8ozeqnA5_5WYRQ_aem_mEKeVp7VkPizyGJC1QggKA

All references on the WIA Website + December 2015 News from the Board attached

<https://www.wia.org.au/newsevents/news/2015/20151204-2/index.php>

<https://www.wia.org.au/newsevents/news/2015/20150803-1/index.php>

<https://www.wia.org.au/newsevents/news/2015/20151102-1/index.php>

<https://www.wia.org.au/newsevents/news/2015/20151114-1/index.php>

<https://www.wia.org.au/newsevents/news/2015/20151117-1/index.php>

<https://www.wia.org.au/newsevents/news/2015/20151119-1/index.php>

<https://www.wia.org.au/newsevents/news/2015/20151222-1/index.php>





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Foundation Level Study Guide

Like all our resources, the FLSG is free, and we encourage you to share it with your club, friends and others who may be interested in becoming a radio amateur.

This resource is backed up by our other award-winning resources, including QRM Guru, the Welcome to Amateur Radio Guidebook, VKRegs and the Amateur Radio Tech Support knowledge system and helpdesk.

This resource is unique. Not only is it up-to-date with the latest information on the Class Licence, but it includes tailored instructional videos, links to useful websites, and extra "good to know" learning opportunities. All of this is backed up by a Knowledge Base with an integrated email-based helpdesk. So if you have feedback or questions, you can easily raise a ticket.

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To clubs, educators, and assessors. If you have any feedback we'd love to hear from you.

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60 Metres? It Makes No Sense From QTC March 2023

By The RASA Committee

The 60 metre or 5 MHz amateur band was approved by the 2015 World Radio Conference. The band runs from **5.3515 MHz** to **5.3665 MHz**.

60 metres has some unique propagation characteristics which make it attractive to the international amateur radio community. The allocation is not large, but it fulfills an important niche in the HF portion of our spectrum.

Over 215 countries have granted 60 metres to their Amateur Radio communities, including New Zealand.

Australia is the exception. Our regulator remains steadfast in their decision to deny access to this band.



RASA has been lobbying ACMA for access to 60 metres over the past three years. Thus far our requests have been denied.

The ACMA advises that this part of the spectrum must be reserved for 'Defence purposes', which may include the Jindalee Over the Horizon Radar System.

There are no defence allocations either in or near the 60 metre amateur band. This part of the radio spectrum is allocated to the fixed and mobile services in the Australian and International Spectrum Plans.

Let's look at the key reasons behind why amateur radio should be granted access to 60 metres:

There are already more than two thousand, two hundred Australian frequency assignments between 5 and 6 MHz. The band is used extensively by land mobile networks.

The busiest of these networks, by far, are the eight major networks catering to remote outback travellers in four-wheel drive vehicles.

Between them, these networks operate on ten 5 MHz frequencies through twenty-five base stations, spread all over Australia – there are base stations and mobiles operating in every State and Territory.

Collectively, these networks have thousands of users. They all operate regular daily scheduled broadcasts. The frequencies used are spread all over the 5 MHz land mobile band. All stations use 100W transmit power.

Contrast this with the proposed amateur allocation – operating in a 15 kHz sub band, on four fixed channels, using 8 dB less transmit power (15W). It is also proposed that the band only be available to Advanced licensees, thereby further restricting access.

The potential for interference to radar systems from such an allocation is negligible. Moreover, the restriction of the proposed amateur allocation to four channels in a narrow sub-band means that these can easily be notched out by the radar system if required – they would thus have no effect on its utility. To argue that amateurs would have an impact is simply not technically viable. This view has been endorsed by former Defence HF radio engineering specialists.

If 5 MHz operations did affect Australian defence systems, then they would already be completely compromised by the large amount of fixed and mobile services currently in use and

(presumably) by Amateurs in New Zealand and other Pacific nations. If this were the case, then ACMA would have immediately prohibited any new commercial allocations in this part of the spectrum, because they threaten "National Security". This has not happened. Is amateur radio the subject of discrimination by the regulator, one wonders?

The ACMA and Defence position is not viable technically or operationally. Any reasonable person would draw the conclusion that the Department of Defence harbours an unreasonable dislike of Amateur Radio.

More recent correspondence with the ACMA implies that they are not making a regulatory assessment of the 5MHz spectrum themselves but are simply deferring the decision to the Department of Defence and accepting their position unchallenged.

It can be argued that ACMA's decision to deny Amateur access is not based on logic. It defies their own charter as an independent regulator of the Australian radio spectrum.

RASA will continue to pursue an Australian amateur allocation on 60 metres.

For the record...

We have recently seen what can only be described as grossly inaccurate and damaging misinformation being published by the WIA journal, *Amateur Radio Magazine*. In this instance the misinformation comes from the editor himself, Roger Harrison, who stated:



"Perhaps you are unaware that a competing National Association advocated against allocation of the 5 MHz band to amateurs in Australia..." (ref: Page 61 of AR Nov-Dec-2022)

Such remarks are poor form on many levels. They are not only clearly untrue, but are also divisive, uninformed, and intended to create unnecessary conflict in our community.

There remains a small but powerful group of people who control the WIA, and some of these people are unelected volunteers. We know the WIA President, Scott Williams was unaware of this article in AR Magazine and would have blocked its release had he been given the opportunity.

For some reason, the magazine's editor still can't bring himself to say RASA, nor understand that RASA is *not* a competing association, but a legitimate body that performs the work that the WIA eschews or does poorly.

Let's be clear. RASA has NEVER advocated AGAINST a 5MHz allocation for amateurs.

It is sad to see a long-standing journal like *Amateur Radio* drift so far from its charter of honesty and inclusion. Journalistic integrity requires that a retraction and apology be printed in the next edition of the magazine. A formal complaint has been lodged with the magazine's Editor and President of the WIA.

We respectfully await the outcome, although based on past form, we won't be holding our breath.



Questions and Issues with the Defence letter objecting to Amateur Radio access to 5MHz.

After consulting with a number of communication professionals with Defence and Amateur Radio knowledge, we believe the reasoning given by the Department of Defence, Defence Spectrum Office in their letter dated 27 June 2022, supported by the ACMA, is weak, lacks sufficient engineering rigour and has raised several unanswered questions and additional issues.

Why has the Amateur service been singled out from the numerous other users?

Land Mobile users of 5MHz are plentiful (in the thousands), operate over a wide section of the band and are permitted an ERP of 100W. Moreover, Land Mobile stations generally require communications while mobile in remote areas, which may include areas in close proximity to JORN receiving facilities and other military activity.

Has Defence documented serious interference issues to JORN from existing Land Mobile services on 5MHz?

If it has not, then *why do they consider that a low power (15W ERP), in a 15kHz allocation would be of higher risk?*

- Amateur Advanced licence holders, who we propose would be granted access to the 5 MHz allocation, must demonstrate a high level of technical competency to obtain a licence. Some Advanced licencees also hold tertiary qualifications in electrical engineering and related fields.
- There is already an Amateur Radio presence on 5MHz. For **over two decades now**, Amateur Radio New South Wales (ARNSW) has had an allocation on 5425KHz USB at 100W ERP, call sign VKE580. The Licence conditions permit this service to be used for news services on Sunday mornings from Dural, an elevated outer suburb of Sydney. The 5MHz allocation provides an important service to Amateurs when propagation does not favour the other Amateur bands.

ARNSW have received no interference reports regarding the service.

- To allow all 5MHz band services to operate safely and effectively there has to be strategies in place to prevent interference. JORN operates with an ERP reportedly up to 450KW. The majority of Land Mobile communication is of a **welfare to emergency level in nature**. ***It is assumed that Defence has measures in place to manage Harmful Interference*** to the Land Mobile service, who are the primary users (footnotes notwithstanding). As JORN is operating at the MUF at any point in time, rather than a fixed channel, it would also be expected that Defence must take measures to manage interference it receives from other services.
- In 2024 ACMA approved at least two new licences either in or very close to our segment. One is for a digital service of 400 Watts - just 2KHz below our segment - surely a greater source of interference to JORN than a few hundred amateurs using 15 Watts on three or four fixed frequencies. The other is a 100 Watt Land Mobile service. Why would these licences be granted if the protection of 5 MHz has been agreed in perpetuity?
- November 2019 marked the beginning of Solar Cycle 25. As the cycle progresses, this will increase the number and duration of propagation events where Amateur transmissions from other countries can be heard in Australia at considerable strength on the 5MHz Amateur Allocation. A UK Radio Amateur has already demonstrated that 5MHz is capable of world-wide propagation and has established contacts with other Amateurs in 70 Countries .
- JORN faces north towards neighbouring countries such as Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, China, Philippines Malaysia and to the east, New Zealand; all which have 5MHz Amateur allocations. As of November 2024, there are **260+ countries** where

Amateurs have access to a portion of 5MHz.

- ***If low power Amateur Radio transmissions in a 15 kHz window are genuinely a threat to JORN, or any other defence operations utilising the 5MHz band, this renders the service seriously vulnerable to compromise. Such a vulnerability could be readily taken advantage of by a hostile nation using electronic countermeasures.***

Conclusion

The ACMA is responsible for spectrum management in the 5 MHz band. Citing some vague “Strategic” reason for denying Australian Radio Amateurs access to 5MHz is, in our view, groundless and without evidence.

With the above in mind, does the ACMA have any evidence of their own to substantiate their position on denying Radio Amateurs trial access to spectrum in the 5MHz band as per the resolution at the 2015 ITU World Radiocommunication Conference?

These questions have been put to ACMA and we are waiting for a response.

Launch the countermeasures on 5355kHz



Through its network of spies the CCP discovers a weakness in Australia's Defence systems

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Amateur Radio Helpline

All too often we hear stories of amateurs who need help. Quite often these are simple activities, and the request for help is motivated by health issues, injuries, or just a need for a helping hand in getting across some of the newer technologies.

It's not uncommon to hear of some who have become inactive, simply as they can no longer maintain their dipole, or a basic feedline issue, which has effectively shut down their station. Some cases involve a newcomer who is seeking guidance on setting up a basic HF station or configuring their gear to access the local repeater,

Some issues may be a little more complex, like repairing equipment or addressing a mechanical issue with a rotator or beam antenna.

In the spirit of amateur radio, we thought we'd trial a "Helpline" service. RASA will build a simple database of amateurs who are willing to help, along with some basic information about location, specific skills, and related technology experience.

The system will work like this.

Are you willing to help others?

If so, please provide some basic information. Your first name and callsign, contact details (either email & mobile phone – or both), state, nearest major town, how far you're prepared to travel, can you use remote access to assist (eg. Zoom, messenger or phone), skill categories (eg. Outside works like building/repairing simple wire antennas, installing feedlines, walkthrough of modern radios – like the IC705, ID52, FTDX10 etc). Also any limitations to what you can or can't do. We've provided a link to a Google Form at the bottom of this article.

Do you need help?

If you need help (we'll try to help, but no promises), please send an email to

support@amateurradiotechsupport.freshdesk.com and copy info@vkradioamateurs.org

In your email list as much info as possible to help us link you up with someone close to you with the right skills. As a minimum we'll need your full contact details, including state, suburb/town, email and/or phone number, and a description of the problem or help you're seeking. We may get in contact with you to obtain further information.

The small print: our volunteer helpers are doing this on a best-effort basis as 'elmers'. They are not expected to undertake extensive work or any tasks that they are uncomfortable with. They will not undertake any work on the mains power supply or any activities exposing them to unacceptable risks – such as poking around inside the PA units of valve radios or wiring up mains plugs etc, climbing towers or trees, or climbing onto roofs (subject to individual assessments by the volunteer). Neither the volunteer nor RASA can be responsible for the outcome of any help provided, or possible damage caused. Please be clear regarding expectations and exercise mutual trust - and remember, this is about amateurs helping amateurs.

CALL TO ACTION:



If you can assist as a helper, please click [this link](#) and provide us with your contact details and a profile of the areas in which you can assist.

RASA will only start offering this service if we get a sufficient number of volunteer helpers. Please don't start asking for help until we announce a commencement date early in 2025.

In the meantime, we welcome any questions or feedback. Please email info@vkradioamateurs.org

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RASA HF DX Contest

The end of the year is almost upon us; and with it comes the close to the RASA HF DX Contest. We hope you've been quietly plugging away, chalking up the numbers and having some relaxed fun along the way.

Don't forget, the RASA HF DX Contest is unique - not only does it run for the full calendar year, it also offers a great participation prize. That's right - one lucky applicant will go into the draw to win a Zachtek WSPR transmitter, valued at AUD\$210 and sponsored by two generous members and RASA.

We understand that not everyone has a state-of-the-art contest station, or maybe doesn't have the time or resources to spend aspiring to win... that's why we offer a participation prize - it's to encourage everyone to have a go.

So, as the end of the year approaches, check the rules and make sure you submit your log along with a summary sheet and you could win this great prize.

You can read all about it, including the rules, here: <https://vkradioamateurs.org/rasa-dx-contest/>

We're finalising the Rules for 2025, but assume they'll be pretty similar to 2024, so get to it again in the New Year.



[Read about this product HERE](#)

[View Larger](#)



**Ballarat Amateur Radio Group Inc.
(BARG)**



HAMVENTION

Sunday February 2 2025

At the Ballarat Polo-Crosse Club's
Facility, Ballarat Airport

Display and Sales (setup from 8am on the day)

Trade Table \$20.00 includes one admission,
(Space for 70+ tables, this is a big one!)

General Admission \$ 7.00 (accompanied under 15 free)

STRICTLY 10:00 AM START

Food and drink will be available

Enquiries and up to date details: BARG on the web
www.barg.org.au

VKClassifieds.net.au



Foundation Course - Register [HERE](#) the courses are popular, so ensure you register asap.

Saturday 28 December 2024

The course is scheduled for Saturday 28 December to be held at the clubrooms in Burwood.

If you would like more information or are interested in attending the Foundation Course Link

The club has a number of accredited examiners as members, who are always available to run examinations Link

The Manual to study for the Foundation Licence. Foundation Level Study Guide (FLSG)

AND.....

We will be open Thursdays, except for Boxing Day!

We have a Zoom only presentation on Friday the 17th.

Keep your eyes open on the [website](#)/FB.

Topic- WWFF operations from Paul VK5PAS. Pencil in the night now!





ACMA Update

Third Party Messaging for Amateur Radio – Yes or No?

RASA has recently received inquiries relating to Third Party Messaging. There was some confusion surrounding procedural changes when the Class Licence was introduced.

It was pointed out that the ACMA website describing operator procedures appeared to have excluded ordinary Third Party Messaging. This seemed peculiar, as there had been reassurances by the ACMA that common operating conditions would not change. The RASA team researched the issue and discovered a series of inconsistencies with the new regulations.

The initial concern was the statement on the ACMA's Operating Procedures website:

“You must not transmit a message on behalf of a non-amateur (third-party traffic) unless the message relates to a disaster.”

Ref: <https://www.acma.gov.au/amateur-radio-operating-procedures>

What is a Third Party Message?

The concept of Third Party Message handling has been around in Amateur Radio for many decades. When an operator contacts another station (in Australia or overseas) and gives that person a message to deliver to a third person who was not at the radio, then the communication is defined as a *Third Party Message*.

Historically, Australian Amateurs have been permitted to distribute not-for-profit Third Party Messages within Australia, or to people overseas if that country has authorised Third Party messages by their own legislation. For example, the American FCC endorses the use of third party traffic to and from Australia.

Ref: [FCC Definition](#)

Inconsistent information on the ACMA website.

The Operating Procedures section of the ACMA site presently indicates that general Third Party Messaging is prohibited, contradicting the current Foundation exam syllabus, where Third Party Messaging clearly remains permissible when not taking place for financial gain.

Here is an extract from the current (examinable) ACMA **Foundation syllabus Feb 2024**:

2.3	Communications by amateur stations	Recall that, except in relation to a distress or emergency situation, or participating in emergency services operations or training exercises, the Amateur Class Licence only authorises amateur-to-amateur communications.
2.4		Recall that messages may be passed-on on behalf of third parties as long as they are not used for financial gain or reward.

Section 2.4 specifically permits general, not-for-profit Third Party Messages.

Here is an extract from the current (examinable) ACMA **Standard syllabus Feb 2024**:

Section 2.4 in this document has different wording, which has been misconstrued in General Procedures to mean that Third Party messages are only permissible during times of disaster.

2.3	Communications by amateur stations	Recall that, except in relation to a distress or emergency situation, or participating in emergency services operations or training exercises, the Amateur Class Licence only authorises amateur-to-amateur communications.
2.4		Recall that particular conditions apply to the transmission of messages on behalf of a third party or messages to amateurs in another country.



This inconsistency is problematic, not only because operating procedures seem to have changed, which is causing confusion, but because the topic of Third Party Messaging is examinable. **In its present form, the success or failure of an exam candidate could be dependent upon which part of the ACMA website has been studied.**

If it were true that ordinary (non-disaster) Third Party Messaging has been excluded in Australia, then other countries such as the USA, are unaware of this change, and if it were true, they would now need to reflect this shift in their regulatory documents.

The RASA consultation with the ACMA

We wrote to the ACMA in November referencing this material and requested a clarification.

On the 28th November we received this response:

"Thank you for your query.

Third-party messaging

Section 13 of the [Radiocommunications \(Amateur Stations\) Class Licence 2023](#) details the purposes for which an amateur station may be operated. The Class Licence does not prohibit third-party messaging if the conditions in the Class Licence, including in s13, are met.

We agree that the Amateur radio operating procedures inconsistently reflect the Class Licence requirements. Thank you for drawing this to our attention.

Please note that amateur operators are required to comply with the conditions in the Class Licence. The Amateur radio operating procedures is guidance material only. Where there are inconsistencies between the two, the Class Licence should be followed.

We will look to revise the operating procedures in the near future."

This is a good result for Australian amateurs, but some interpretation is needed to fully understand this statement. Note this line within the reply: ***The Class Licence does not prohibit third-party messaging if the conditions in the Class Licence, including in s13, are met.***

Let's take a look at the actual legislation (Section 13):

13 Operation of station – purposes and transmissions

- (1) A person must not operate an amateur station otherwise than for an amateur purpose.
- (2) A person must not operate an amateur station:
 - (a) to obtain financial gain or reward, or for the purpose of obtaining financial gain or reward; or
 - (b) that is, or as, an amateur repeater station; or
 - (c) that is, or as, an amateur beacon station; or

(d) to transmit:

- (i) a message that enables any person to obtain financial gain or reward; or
- (ii) a message that is, or includes, an advertisement; or
- (iii) a message to an amateur station in another country, if the purpose of the transmission would be inconsistent with the table of frequency band allocations in the spectrum plan or a footnote to that table; or
- (iv) subject to subsection (3), a signal that is encoded, for the purpose of obscuring the meaning of the signal.

Ref: <https://www.legislation.gov.au/F2023L01648/asmade/text>

Messages are permitted as long as they are not encrypted/encoded, not for financial gain and not being sent to a country that prohibits such messages. Therefore, the existing arrangements and limitations with other countries remain unchanged.

The outcome

We have confirmed that the actual rules governing Third Party Messages have not been eroded by the transition to a Class Licence, but some of the Operating Procedures presently on the ACMA website have been incorrectly interpreted.

This has had a flow-on impact on some syllabus documents and some exam questions. As a result of this investigation, the ACMA have agreed to revise the published Operating Procedures and documents so that they correctly reflect the core legislation.

We wish to thank the Amateurs who originally brought this matter to our attention and the ACMA Spectrum Licensing section for taking the time to address our concerns and make the necessary adjustments.

VK Prefixes - Confirmation

There has been some confusion from some quarters regarding the changes to callsign prefix as a part of the Class Licence. To clarify, the new arrangements:

VK1-VK8 - Mainland Australia and Tasmania, as well as islands within 350km of the mainland

VK0 - Australian Antarctic Territory

VK9 - External Territories including:

Heard & McDonalds Islands

Norfolk Island

Mellish Reef

Willis Island & Islets

Cocos (Keeling) Islands

Christmas Island

Ashmore & Cartier Islands (although these are not an independent DXCC, they are part of VK)

For clarity the following apply:

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Product	Price
YAESU FT-991	\$1,179!
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ICOM IC-710	\$329!
ICOM IC-8700	\$2,399!
ICOM IC-7300	\$699!
ICOM IC-706	\$1,199!
ICOM IC-2738A	\$470!
ICOM IC-7100	\$1,675!
ICOM IC-M3300E	\$399!

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Macquarie is VK7 - still it's own DXCC entity
Lord Howe Island in VK2 - still it's own DXCC entity

Macquarie Island is listed as the [Macquarie Island Nature Reserve](#) under the [Tasmanian Nature Conservation Act 2002](#). Therefore Macquarie Island call signs issued under the *Radiocommunications (Amateur Stations) Class Licence 2023* will be VK7.

The above were confirmed with ACMA December 2024

Antennapalooza Re-Scheduled to January

We tried folks, but it wasn't going to work. Heavy rain in the week leading up, and heavy rain and bad weather were predicted for the weekend.



These are not good camping conditions. Not good for presentations and not good for boggy car parking.

Even space weather was against us with strong geomagnetic unrest predicted for the weekend, meaning the bands would be quite dead.

Preparations were in their final stages, all the grass was cut and equipment laid out.

With great reluctance, we decided to cancel Antennapalooza for the November-December weekend and to try again on January 11th and 12th.

I hope everyone will agree that it is better to have a good time in January rather than a washout in November.

The demonstration antenna is up and appears to be working well. The next trick will be to preserve the 18 metre high PVC masts it for the next 6 weeks.

In other news a special Antennapalooza callsign has been registered for these events. VK3AZA

Thank you for your patience and we will come back with a new bulletin and updated event program a week before the 11th.

Keep an eye on the Antennapalooza website for updates.

Cheers, Ian VK3BUF Dianne VK3JDI



Celebrating 100 years of the Royal Australian Corps of Signals

In 2025, the Australian Army's Royal Australian Corps of Signals will recognise its centenary year with a series of events and activities.

Australia has the unique distinction of having had the first regularly formed signal unit in the British Empire.

In 1912, signals troops and companies formed portion of the Corps of Australian Engineers and served as such throughout World War 1.

On the 1st January 1925, all Signals units were separated from the Australian Corps of Engineers and the Australian Corps of Signals was formed.

Thus began the evolution of the Australian Corps of Signals, which reached a total strength of 24,000 during the Second World War.

On 10th November 1948, His Majesty King George VI conferred the title "Royal" on the Australian Corps of Signals. Since then, members of the Corps have served with distinction in all warlike and peacekeeping operational areas.

During the Centenary year, past and current members of the Royal Australian Corps of Signals will activate the special event callsign, VI100SIG. It is proposed that this callsign will be activated during the various celebrations and activates that are occurring during the Centenary year.

Past and current members of the Corps are encouraged to participate by contacting Steve VK4FI or Rob VK2COS via their email addresses on QRZ.COM

Updates will be provided via the [VI100SIG QRZ.COM](https://www.qrz.com/db/VI100SIG) and [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/VI100SIG) pages.

73

Rob VK2COS

Dits n Dahs

Getting active is what it's all about. Activity builds confidence and before you know it the nerves will melt away and you'll be happily jumping on-air for a QSO.

To encourage more activity and create an easy goal for new-comers, FISTS Down Under is sponsoring an Award for December 2024.



WW1 British Marine Key

The 10 in 10 Award 2024

Award: Make at least 10 qsos within 10 consecutive days in December.

Endorsement for at least one per day for any 10 consecutive days in December

Endorsements: QRP (5W or less), QRPp (1W or less)

Endorsements: Straight key, bug, cootie

Options:

Try for multiple categories

Try for multiples: ie. 20 or 30 consecutive days, one QSO per day

FDU will issue an Award certificate for those achieving the Award objectives.

Scoring

To add a bit of extra fun, we're adding a competitive component to this activity. Separate to the Award criteria, you calculate your score as following:

1 point per QSO at >5W

2 points per QSO at QRP

3 points per QSO at QRP

The top 3 place-getters will receive an FDU Coffee cup with their callsign.

Read more [here](#)

Submit your log in electronic format by 7 January 2025 (or sooner). A photo of your paperlog, excel or other format is fine. Queries and log via email to vk3qb ref www.qrz.com

Open to all VK and ZL ops. You don't have to be a member.

If you're calling CQ and not getting any takers check the FDU frequency chart, or try announcing your activity on the FDU Facebook page or Discord. You can find the details on www.fdu.org.au

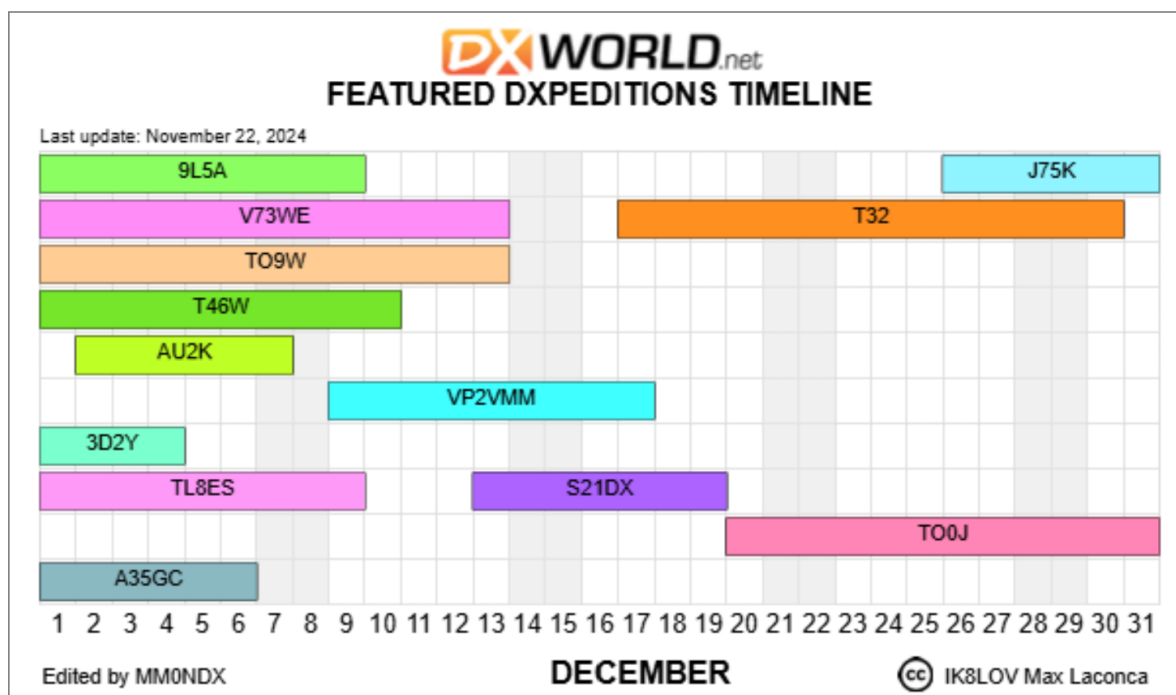
Forty metres is a good reliable band for local contacts during the day: try 7025, 7028 or 7032 kHz as a starting point, but don't be afraid to use that big dial on the front of the radio ;-)

See you on the bands!

DX Happenings

Well, Christmas and other religious celebrations are upon us, which means a lot of us will be taking a break and enjoying the good weather. We hope you'll have the opportunity to have some quality time in front of the radio and work some exciting DX.

Here's the latest news from DX-World. <https://www.dx-world.net/>



The VK9CV team finished up and did a great job. They logged an impressive total of 105,789 QSOs and 180 DXCC entities. You can read there news at <https://vk9cv.com/>



What can you do with QRP and a simple antenna?

We received an email from Graeme VK5GG summarising his recent CQWW CQ entry. Now, Graeme doesn't have a hot-shot contest station, nor does he have a tower with beams. His station comprises a barefoot IC-7300 (running 5W), DX-Commander vertical with 32 x 3m long radials, and a fan dipole. Nothing special, and well within the limitations of most suburban radio amateurs.

Check out these fantastic results. Graeme also commented on the amazing run into EU on 15 metres overnight.

Contest: CQWWCW						
Band	QSOs	Pts	ZN	Cty	Pt/Q	
3.5	1	0	1	1	0.0	
7	22	59	9	8	2.7	
14	23	56	10	15	2.4	
21	27	64	11	19	2.4	
28	5	10	3	3	2.0	
Total	78	189	34	46	2.4	
Score: 15,120						
1 Mult = 1.0 Q's						

Graeme advises he was mostly working Search & Pounce as any attempts to call CQ were swamped by nearby stations. His time (in a previous life) helped him with the overnight shift, but alas, he succumbed and

had too many hours shut-eye, which no doubt impacted his final score. He estimates he spent about 12 hours in front of the radio.



And there's nothing quite like a QSO Mapper image to bring his results to life.

Take Graeme's experience as an inspiration. Sure, there's nothing quite like a WW Contest to make the bands come alive, but he has demonstrated what's possible with a simple station on a suburban block on the outskirts of Adelaide. 46 DXCC with just 5 Watts.

Graeme also notes that there were a few stations (like FW7AA and V85RH) he could hear and would like to have worked, but his QRP signal just couldn't compete with the big guys.

Congratulations Graeme - and let us know how you fair in the results.



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for Amateur Radio***

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